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# Women's National Press Club Dinner

Mike Mansfield 1903-2001

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Memo: Speech Delivered at the Women's National Press Club Dinner  
January 3, 1953

Madam Chairman, distinguished guests, friends:

I do not deem myself capable of predicting things to come in the field of foreign affairs. However, there are certain things which I would like to see make headlines this year.

I believe that the Mutual Security Agency, as such, should be abolished and its functions should be taken over by the State Department under Mr. Dulles. I believe that this is a responsibility of that department of the government and I think the results will be, better administration, lack of duplication and overlapping, and doing away with of incompetent and unnecessary personnel.

I would like to see Spain and Germany become full fledged members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization so a more united front could be achieved among the non-communist nations of Western Europe.

I would like to see the Middle East Command established under the Command of General Naguib who seems to be an outstanding individual and who holds forth the promise of being able to achieve stability in the Middle East.

I do not know what will be happening in Iran but as some people have said, there are eight millionaires and one plumber in the incoming Cabinet. I would suggest that the plumber be given the assignment of solving the extremely difficult situation in Iran.

I would like to see Point Four, as it is applied to India and other countries, given a better chance to succeed. I do not mean that we should try to impose in any way, shape or form, American

ideals or democracy on those countries but I do feel that in helping them to develop their resources, to better manage their own affairs, and achieve their own type of government, that they will be better bulwarks against the in-roads of communist propaganda.

In Korea, we face three choices: we can go ahead; we can stay as we are, or we can pull out. None of these are pleasing to the American people and all of these are fraught with danger. I hope that whatever position in Korea is followed by the new administration, that all the possibilities will be considered in detail and all the potentialities thoroughly understood. I am sure that the great majority of the Democrats, if not all of them, will support President-Elect Eisenhower in his policies because we realize the difficult job ahead and we know that there is no easy, no quick, no cheap way out of the difficulties which confront us in the months and years ahead.

I hope that the bitterness of the last campaign in which too many people placed their party above their country, can be done away with and we all will act as Americans in this time of great danger. It is well to keep in mind that if we win, we all win; if we lose, we all lose.